

CLAIMS:

1. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for operating a host computer, the computer program comprising:

5 a code segment for receiving a scheduled time of departure or arrival for an airline flight;

a code segment for receiving an updated time of departure or arrival for the airline flight;

a code segment for comparing the updated time of departure or arrival to the scheduled time of departure or arrival for the flight; and

10 a code segment for automatically pushing notification information to at least one passenger on the airline flight or to an agent of the passenger if the updated time of departure or arrival varies from the scheduled time of departure or arrival by a predetermined amount of time.

15 2. The computer program as set forth in claim 1, the notification information including information relating to the updated time of departure or arrival for the airline flight.

20 3. The computer program as set forth in claim 1, the predetermined amount of time being between 10 - 60 minutes.

4. The computer program as set forth in claim 1, the predetermined amount of time being approximately 30 minutes.

25 5. The computer program as set forth in claim 1, further including a code segment for receiving passenger reservation information from an airline passenger or an agent of the passenger, the passenger reservation information including information about an airline flight the passenger is reserving.

6. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for operating a host computer, the computer program comprising:

a code segment for receiving and storing in a database scheduled times of departure or arrival for substantially all U.S. airline flights departing or arriving within a certain time;

a code segment for receiving and storing in the database any updated times of departure or arrival for the flights;

a code segment for comparing, for each of the flights, the scheduled time of departure or arrival to the updated time of departure or arrival;

a code segment for flagging records in the database corresponding to flights in which the updated times of departure or arrival vary from the scheduled times of departure or arrival by a predetermined amount of time; and

a code segment for periodically querying the database to locate all flagged records and pushing notification information to at least one passenger or an agent of the passenger on each flight corresponding to a record that has been flagged.

7. The computer program as set forth in claim 6, the notification information including information relating to the updated time of departure or arrival for the airline flight.

8. The computer program as set forth in claim 6, the predetermined amount of time being between 10 - 60 minutes.

9. The computer program as set forth in claim 6, the predetermined amount of time being approximately 30 minutes.

10. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for operating a host computer, the computer program comprising:

a code segment for receiving passenger reservation information from an airline passenger, the passenger reservation information including a scheduled time of departure or arrival for a flight reserved by the passenger;

a code segment for receiving contact information from the passenger;

a code segment for queuing the passenger reservation information to a date-ranged queue using the scheduled time of departure or arrival of the flight;

a code segment for receiving an updated time of departure or arrival for the flight;

a code segment for accessing the date ranged queue and comparing the scheduled time of departure or arrival to the updated time of departure or arrival; and

a code segment for automatically pushing notification information to the passenger or to an agent of the passenger via the contact information if the updated time of departure or arrival varies from the scheduled time of departure or arrival by a predetermined amount of time.

11. The computer program as set forth in claim 10, the notification information including information relating to the updated time of departure or arrival for the airline flight.

12. The computer program as set forth in claim 10, the predetermined amount of time being between 10 - 60 minutes.

13. The computer program as set forth in claim 10, the predetermined amount of time being approximately 30 minutes.

14. A method of notifying airline passengers of airline flight status changes, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving scheduled departure or arrival times of a plurality of airline flights and
storing the scheduled departure or arrival times in a computer-readable
memory;

receiving updated departure or arrival times for the airline flights and storing the
updated departure or arrival times in a computer-readable memory;

comparing the scheduled departure or arrival times to the updated departure or
arrival times; and

automatically pushing notification information to at least one passenger on an
airline flight if the updated departure or arrival time for the airline flight
varies from the scheduled departure or arrival time for the airline flight by
a predetermined amount of time.

15. The method as set forth in claim 14, the notification information
including information relating to the updated departure or arrival time for the airline flight.

16. The method as set forth in claim 14, the predetermined amount of time
being between 10 - 60 minutes.

17. The method as set forth in claim 14, the predetermined amount of time
being approximately 30 minutes.